CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. A method of accessing a resource associated with a resource locator (RL) comprising the steps of:

   receiving input of a RL, said RL corresponds to a resource;

   soliciting input of search terms where said RL is invalid;

   receiving input of said search terms;

   searching a predetermined index of valid RLs in accordance with said search terms;

   presenting a list of all valid RLs in said predetermined index that correspond to said search terms;

   receiving selection of a RL from said list; and

   retrieving and displaying content from said selected RL.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said RL comprises a uniform resource locator (URL).

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said resource comprises a resource accessible via the Internet.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said search term comprises a wildcard representing a predetermined plurality of characters.

1   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein said search term comprises a wildcard.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, wherein said search term is representative of a

2   range of values.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of retrieving and

2   displaying content from said resource where said RL is valid.

1   8.   A method of accessing a resource associated with a resource locator (RL)

2   comprising the steps of:

3   receiving input of a RL, said RL corresponding to a resource;

4   determining if said RL is valid;

5   soliciting input of a RL search string where said RL is invalid;

6   receiving input of said RL search string; and

7   searching a predetermined index of valid RLs in accordance with said RL search

8   string to determine valid RLs that meet criteria specified by said RL search string.

1   9.   The method of claim 8, wherein said RL comprises a uniform resource

2   locator (URL).

1   10.   The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of displaying a list of

2   valid RLs that meet criteria of said RL search string.

1   11.   The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving a

2   selection of a RL specified by said list of valid RLs that meet criteria of said RL search

3   string.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of accessing and

2   displaying content from a resource associated with said selected RL.

1   13.   A method of selecting a resource locator (RL) comprising the steps of:

2   receiving input of a RL, said RL corresponding to a resource;

3   determining if said RL is valid;

4   generating a RL search string where said RL is invalid; and

5   searching a predetermined index of valid RLs in accordance with said RL search

6   string to determine valid RLs that meet the criteria of said RL search string.

1   14.   The method of claim 13, wherein said RL comprises a uniform resource

2   locator (URL).

1   15.   The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of displaying a list of

2   valid RLs that meet the criteria of said RL search string.

1   16.   The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of receiving a

2   selection of a RL on said list of valid RLs that meet criteria of said RL search string.

1   17.   The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of accessing and

2   displaying content from a resource associated with said selected RL.

1   18.   A system for accessing a resource associated with a resource locator (RL)

2   comprising:

3   controller for receiving a RL search string from a user device;

4   memory associated with said controller for storing a list of valid RLs; and

5   said controller is further configured to search said list of valid RLs to determine

6   valid RLs that meet criteria of said RL search string.

1   19.   The system of claim 18, wherein said RL comprises a uniform resource

2   locator (URL).

1   20.   The system of claim 18, wherein said controller is further configured to

2   generate a list of valid RLs meeting criteria of said RL search string.

1   21.   The system of claim 20, wherein said controller is further configured to

2   forward said list of valid RLs meeting said criteria to said user device.

1   22.   The system of claim 21, wherein said controller forwards said list of valid

2   RLs to said user device via a network.

1   23.   The system of claim 18, wherein said RL search string comprises a

2   wildcard character representing a predetermined character.

1   24.   A system for accessing a resource associated with a resource locator (RL)

2 comprising:

3   controller for receiving a RL from a user device;

4   memory associated with said controller for storing a list of valid RLs; and

5   said controller is configured to generate a RL search string where said RL is

6 determined to be invalid; and

7   said RL search string comprises a wildcard.

1   25.   The system of claim 24, wherein said RL comprises a uniform resource

2 locator (URL).

1   26.   The system of claim 24, wherein said controller is further configured to

2 search said list of valid RLs in accordance with said RL search string to identify valid

3 RLs that meet criteria of said RL search string.

1   27.   The system of claim 26, wherein said controller is further configured to

2 forward said list of valid RLs meeting said criteria to said user device.

1   28.   The system of claim 27, wherein said controller forwards said list of valid

2 RLs to said user device via a network.

1   29.   The system of claim 24, wherein said wildcard represents a predetermined

2 character.